A LETTER To a VIRTUOUS LADY, To Diſſwade her from her Reſolution of being A NUN.

This may be Printed, February the 19th, 1685. R. P.

REcall this Reſolution, or you'l prove
A Renegade to *Nature*, and to *Love*:
He that did form all Creatures for Increaſing,
Made *Fruitful Amity* the firſt great Bleſſing;
Why were you made a Woman? Why were we
(By different Sex) put in Capacity
Of getting Children? You croſs Gods Decree;
You will live ſingle, does not every thing
Contribute to the Store-Houſe of the Spring:
Beaſts, Fiſh, Fowls, Grain; one Ear of Corn will yield,
(With Husbandry) enough to fill a Field:
Were every thing Fruitleſs (as you would be)
You'd Eat the Walls down of your *Nunnery*.
But your Tranſgreſſion unto *Love* is ſuch,
As no Man's Pen can aggravate too much;

Were thoſe *Blew Veins*, *Red Lips*, *White Hands*, *Black Ey's*,
Made only for a *Veſtal Sacrifice*?
But you reply, *'Tis to prevent thoſe Crimes*,
And hot Allurements, *which pollute the Times*:
Madam, are you ſo weak, or Sin ſo ſtout,
That nothing but *Stone-Walls* can keep it out?
Uliſſes when he fear'd to be Imbrac'd
By *Syrens*, bound himſelf to the Ships Maſt;
Becauſe he found his Soul ſo much inclin'd
Unto Temptation, did his Body bind;
And is it ſo with you? muſt you needs run
This Tempting Race, unleſs y'have Fetters on?
Are Maids ſo frail, can Virgins find no trick
For Chaſtity, but to be Buried Quick?
And yet when all this ſtreight preventions wrought,
Not all your *Walls*, nor *Bars*, can keep out Thought:
In my conceipt thoſe Hearts have fineſt Stations,
That can be Chaſt in ſpight of all Temptations.
Chaſt Wedlock was at firſt deſign'd, that we
Might not Abuſe, but keep our Chaſtity.
You may do ſo, and yet not Live alone,
That Woman's Chaſt enough that knows but one:
Stop your Reſolve then e're it farther runs,
For *Virtuous Wives* are better than ſome *Nuns*.

FINIS.

LONDON, Printed for *John Harris*, 1686.

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